Meeting Summary
Delaware Geographic Data Committee
9:00 a.m., November 16, 2001
Legislative Hall, Dover

Attendance List:[1]

Shelly McCoy – UD Library
Dick Sacher – UD/RDMS
John Callahan – UD/RDMS
Tina Callahan – UD/RDMS
Mary Harper – SHPO
Vince Rucinski – DelDOT
Peter Owusu–Donkor – Kent County MPO
Dennis Murphy – DNREC
Bill Lee – DelDOT
Pete Gerardi – Facilities Management
Jeff Bergstrom – City of New Castle
Larry Pomatto – DNREC
David Beattie – City of Wilmington

Matt Zimolzak – US Census Bureau
Elizabeth Brown – Davis, Bowen & Friedel
Tim Westbrook – New Castle County
Shawn Tucker – New Castle County
George Yocher – DPH
Lyn Anderson – Dept. of Labor
Mike Mahaffie – State Planning Coord.
Dorothy Morris – State Planning Coord.
Richard Rutter – DEDO
Sandy Schenck – DGS
Debbie Sullivan – DNREC
McKelvin Gilbert – DelDOT

Welcome and Introductions

Mike Mahaffie began the meeting by going over the agenda and asking each person present to introduce themselves to the group.

Information Updates

I-Team
Mike Mahaffie gave a quick review of the activities of the I-Team to date. He explained that the I-Team is building on the Framework efforts of the DGDC and will likely call on the DGDC to help flesh out parts of the Framework Implementation Plan.

Homeland Defense
Mike Mahaffie handed out a printout of a white paper on GIS and Homeland Defense from the FGDC web site (*http://www.fgdc.gov/publications/homeland.html*). Dennis Murphy noted that DNREC had pulled back some information on pollution sources and was reviewing other information. Many states have pulled back GIS data on water supplies.

Orthophotography Project
Mike Mahaffie noted that the DGDC and the I-Team had put out a Request For Proposals for aerial photography to produce digital orthophotography of the state and that several vendors had

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[1] This list is based on the sign-in sheet from the meeting. Of course, we may have misread a name or someone may have missed the sign-in sheet. If you have any additions or deletions to suggest, please e-mail Mike Mahaffie at mmahaffie@state.de.us.

attended a pre-bid conference. Mike thanked Sandy Schenck and Debbie Sullivan for their assistance at the pre-bid conference. Mike explained that bids were due on 11/19/01 and that a DGDC Bid-Review Group would make a recommendation on those bids to the I-Team.

2002 Delaware GIS Conference
Mike Mahaffie reported on the efforts of the Conference Planning group. The Conference will be held on April 18, 2002 at the Rehoboth Country Club. A web site has been established (*http://www.state.de.us/planning/gis2002/*) and will be filled in as details are settled. John Callahan reported on presentations that are already planned and asked for volunteers to give others. Sandy Schenck asked for submittal of posters for the conference.

Schools/GPS Project
Lyn Anderson gave an update on the Schools/GPS Project in which GIS professionals will visit Delaware classrooms and work with students to build a spatial database of information on Delaware schools. Lyn passed around a sign-up sheet and asked for volunteers. She noted that there would be GPS training set up for those who need that training.

Delaware Geographic Names Committee
Sandy Schenck gave an update on the Delaware Geographic Names Committee (DGNC), which has been established to give Delaware's input to the U. S. Board on Geographic Names. The Group has held its first meeting and will meet again on December 5. Sandy has also established a web site (*http://www.udel.edu/dgs/DGNC/DGNChome.html*) for the group. There are three small stream segments in New Castle County for which names have been proposed. The DGNC is now reviewing those name proposals.

Delaware Portion of the NHD
Mike Mahaffie noted that the USGS and Delaware were working together to find a way to complete the Delaware portion of the new National Hydrography Dataset (NHD), which is a step beyond the current Digital Line Graph (DLG) hydrography dataset and includes added attribute information. The northern portion of the state has been completed as part of a project of the Delaware River Basin Commission to which Delaware has contributed. The western portion of the state will be covered by a project of the Chesapeake Bay Foundation, now under way. That leaves two additional hydrologic cataloguing units that Delaware and the USGS will try to fund in partnership. A meeting is planned to continue discussing this project. DNREC and DGS are involved, as are several other federal agencies and the State of Maryland.

Delaware Census Mapper

Dick Sacher and Tina Callahan made a presentation on the Census Mapper web site put together by the UD's Research and Data Management Services (RDMS) to present US Census data and TIGER-Line files for Delaware. The web site (*http://datamil.udel.edu/census*) includes downloadable GIS data and attribute data and an on-line GIS function.

Dick Sacher started the presentation with an overview of some of the Census data sources in the state and what sorts of Data they provide. Tina Callahan then gave a tour of the Census Mapper web site and showed some of its many capabilities.

There was a discussion of the uses of the site and several ideas for possible improvement were brought forward. It was generally agreed that the system was very cool and would be a big help.

Address Geocoder Project

Vince Rucinski gave a presentation (attached) on the DelDOT Address Geocoder, which is part of a larger system designed to help protect Delaware bridges. The larger system also includes a Vehicle Permitting System and a Dynamic Routing System. The Geocoder, which is now being developed for DelDOT by a consultant, will allow users to enter street addresses and get back X-Y or lat-long coordinates.

There was discussion about the inputs the system will be able to handle and about the data sources it will draw from. Vince noted that there are problems with address data accuracy, especially in Sussex County, where County officials are still updating their address system. There was also discussion of ways to integrate the system with the statewide 911 system.

Tim Westbrook noted that a next step should include statewide standards for address geocoding. He pointed out that New Castle County already establishes X and Y coordinates for cadastral data, which might help with statewide geocoding. Vince stated that this project would be a start and he thinks something could be done with it.

Sandy asked when they access to the information will be available. Vince stated that it is behind the firewall and that eventually they would have access to it through their URL but it is not worked out yet.

It was asked what the address range sources are. Vince stated that the consultant did the work from the parcel maps. He noted that the Sussex County 911 readdressing would put that information out of date.

Tim Westbrook noted that New Castle County has updated centerline files and corrected them to the County cadastral data, but they are not published. He told Vince to call and ask for them and he would get the information to him.

DGDC Committee/Structure Discussion

Mike Mahaffie went over a list (attached) of the committees that are currently active and those that have been active in the past but have recently become inactive. Mike stated that the question before the committee was what the committee structure should be for the GIS community.

Sandy Schenck noted that SMAC was created by executive order, but between 1994 and 1998 they never met. He noted that, when the DGDC was established in 1998, it was set-up to be a policy-level group that could act on technical recommendations made by the State Mapping Advisory Committee (SMAC). In practice, he noted, the two groups seem to be populated by the same members and the I-Team has filled the role of the higher-level policy group.

Tim Westbrook pointed out that that the time has been useful and that the number of committees is a semantic question. Sandy agreed but stated that there are the same people at both meetings; he asked whether the DGDC and SMAC meetings aren't just the same meetings with different names.

John Callahan stated that SMAC gets into more technical issues and that maybe these meetings are not needed as regularly. Mike Mahaffie stated that DGDC would often have presentations that fit into the SMAC meeting.

John stated that SMAC meetings are more technical and less formal. Debbie Sullivan suggested having them both the same day.

Mike stated that some of the options in front of the group are 1) keep current structure 2) have quarterly meetings with DGDC in the morning and SMAC in the afternoon or 3) schedule DGDC quarterly and SMAC as needed.

It was noted by several people that they would like to see both meetings in one day but instead of breaking between the meetings, just working through lunch. Liz Brown stated that the agenda would set who should be there.

Mike suggested the roundtable might be replaced by the listserv. Dick Sacher stated that the listserv did not have the same value as face-to-face discussions.

Tina Callahan stated that she likes the idea of having the meetings on the same day and that a tier should be set up for issues. They should begin at the technical level, move to the DGDC level and then gain final approval through the I-Team.

It was noted that the metadata committee should be listed as active. John Callahan volunteered to chair that group.

A motion was made by Sandy Schenck, seconded by John Callahan, and unanimously accepted by all members present that the meetings be quarterly with the DGDC meeting in the morning followed by the SMAC meeting which will begin with the roundtable.

Wrap Up

Mike noted that the practice of having committees and working groups formed out of the DGDC and SMAC would likely continue, with groups forming on an as-needed basis. He pointed out that groups only exist if they meet and that groups will need to be led by volunteers who will make sure that they do meet, as has been the case recently with the Education and Training Group, led by Lyn Anderson, and the Conference Planning Group.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Delaware Geographic Data Committee
Committee/Structure Discussion, 11/16/01

Existing/Active Committees

Group	Description	Membership
I-Team	A high-level committee, established by Executive Order, to further develop and implement Framework and integrate with other states.	Limited, appointed
DGDC	A "community" structure, established by Legislation, to provide an open forum.	Open
SMAC	A committee that interfaces between state and federal mapping agencies	Open
Geographic Names Comm.	A Committee to interface between the state and the federal Board on Geographic Names.	Limited, appointed
Education Comm.	An Ad-Hoc committee that works to educate GIS community members and outreach to the education community	Limited, self-selected
Conference Comm.	A special-purpose committee that plans the statewide GIS conference	Limited, self-selected

Existing/Inactive Committees

Group	Description	Membership
Framework	A special-purpose committee to recommend Framework layers – job complete?	Limited, self-selected
Cadastral Standards	A special-purpose committee to recommend stand5rads for Cadastral data sets.	Limited, self-selected
Metadata	A special-purpose committee to help achieve metadata for Delaware datasets	Limited, self-selected